

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1401963-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 13

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11/6/61

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[REDACTED]
OO: NEW YORK

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In interview at Paris on 9/14/61 TATIANA PLANKOVA advised that one GRIFFITHS had been associated with CONON MOLODY in the Boy Scouts at Berkeley, California.

On 10/20/61 records pertaining to MOLODY's membership in Boy Scout Troop 33 at Berkeley reflected no information concerning anyone named GRIFFITHS.

On 10/27/61 Miss MARY EDITH McGREW, 2601 Derby Street, Berkeley, former Principal of the A - Zed School, stated that one QUENTIN GRIFFITHS had been a classmate of MOLODY at that school. GRIFFITHS attended from September, 1935, to May, 1939. He was born in March, 1922, and his parent was Mr. F. P. GRIFFITHS, lawyer, 1590 La Vereda, Berkeley. She advised that this was the only individual named GRIFFITHS who had attended that school. Other students had been named GRIFFITH but were not contemporaries of MOLODY.

San Francisco files reflect "EARNHAN FOND GRIFFITHS - BE - 558, AEAA" in an AEC Personnel Security Questionnaire dated June 14, 1949, listed among his children QUENTIN GRIFFITHS and GORDON GRIFFITHS. GORDON GRIFFITHS

3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
1 - New York [REDACTED] (Info. X AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
1 - San Francisco [REDACTED]
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and his wife, WINIFRED MARY GRIFFITHS, are subjects of Bureau files 100-346155 and 116-140537 respectively. Both were reportedly members of the CP in England in the 1930s. San Francisco files contain no security information re QUENTIN GRIFFITHS.

Records of the Credit Bureau of the Greater East Bay, Oakland, California, in report dated 11/7/58 indicate that QUENTIN GRIFFITHS had been employed since September, 1958, as a teacher at Oakland City College and resided at 1590 LaVereda, Berkeley.

It would appear that QUENTIN GRIFFITHS is the individual with whom MOLODY associated in Berkeley, and it is believed he might possibly furnish pertinent information in this case. His interview is recommended by this office, but in view of his employment as a teacher authorization for such interview is requested of the Bureau.

11/9/61

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM: SAC, San Francisco [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[REDACTED]
OO: NEW YORK

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ReBucab to Legat. London. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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On 11/7/61 NICK WEISBERGER, Manager, Chattuck Hotel, Berkeley, advised SA [REDACTED] that reservations for the ballet troupe, including EVELYN COURTNEY and ELEANOR KANKOVA, have been requested for the night of 11/17/61 only and that room assignments will not be made until about 11/15/61.

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On 11/7/61 [REDACTED] advised SA [REDACTED] that the ballet company will arrive in San Jose, California, on the afternoon or evening of 11/15/61 and will hold rehearsals that night. She will

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- 3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
1 - New York [REDACTED] (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED) (Info.)
2 - Washington Field [REDACTED] (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
2 - San Francisco

(1 - [REDACTED])
(1 - [REDACTED])

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NOV 11 1961
FBI - NEW YORK
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[redacted] 11/9/61

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join [redacted] in San Jose on the evening of 11/15/61 and they will return to Berkeley after the performance in San Jose on the night of 11/16/61. ANASTASIA NAUMOVA will not accompany [redacted]. There is possibility PIANKOVA will return to Berkeley on the night of 11/16/61 with [redacted] although this is uncertain. Ballet troupe will arrive in Berkeley on 11/17/61 for performance there that night and will go to Sacramento the following day. PIANKOVA has indicated she would like to stay with [redacted] while in BERKELEY and [redacted] is making plans for her to do so, although such arrangements may change depending on how things go with the troupe.

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[redacted] has been with the ballet troupe since its arrival in the U. S. and intends to accompany it as far as Sacramento, after which he will return home. PIANKOVA will be interviewed at the earliest opportunity, consistent with her schedule, after she has seen NAUMOVA. [redacted] has been requested to have [redacted] contact this office promptly on his arrival in Berkeley, and it is felt he will be in a position to know the details of PIANKOVA's plans so that an interview can be arranged.

In view of the factors contributing to the uncertainty of PIANKOVA's plans, no coverage of her is contemplated beyond interview.

For information Washington Field Office, PIANKOVA upon interview at Paris on October 2 and 3, 1961, advised that NADEDA BELOUSOVITCH of San Francisco is a sister of her husband, SERGE PIANKOV (previously described in this case). PIANKOVA stated BELOUSOVITCH has a son, IGOR BELOUSOVITCH, who was an interpreter for the U. S. Army in Germany and is now employed by the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C.

In interview on 11/6/61 Mrs. BELOUSOVITCH advised that her son is a Captain in the U. S. Army stationed at Fort Meyer in Washington, D. C. She recalled that POLODY had visited this area for a few years in the past. She saw him on only one or two occasions and had no information concerning the arrangements for his stay in this country.

[REDACTED] 11/9/61

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She said her son had never confided in her concerning his activities and associates and she did not know how well he had known MOLODY. She believed the acquaintance would have been slight since IGOR lived in San Francisco while MOLODY lived in Berkeley.

On 11/9/ 61 GEORGE PETER BOLOTOV, MOLODY's second cousin, advised that he did not believe MOLODY and IGOR had been close because IGOR was physically handicapped as a youth and spent most of his time at home with his mother. BOLOTOV noted that IGOR and MOLODY could have known each other well without his knowledge. It was BOLOTOV's impression that IGOR had served in the U. S. Army in Europe but is now in some government agency in Washington, D. C. where he works on translations of foreign languages.

Washington Field is requested to attempt location of IGOR BELOUSOVITCH for the purpose of interviewing him concerning his knowledge of MOLODY. It is recommended that if inquiry at the Library of Congress and at Fort Meyer does not reveal his location, extensive efforts to find him be avoided in view of no definite indication he would have any pertinent information.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio

☐ Teletype

DEFERRED 11/14/61

TO: SAC WASHINGTON AND SAC NEW YORK

FROM: SAC SAN FRANCISCO

GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE, [REDACTED] REMYAIRTEL NOVEMBER
NINE LAST. [REDACTED] ADVISED NOVEMBER ONE THREE INSTANT THAT
PIANKOVA AND COURNAUD WILL ACCOMPANY [REDACTED] ON RETURN
TO BERKELEY. [REDACTED] FROM SAN JOSE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER ONE SIX AND WILL
STAY AT [REDACTED] RESIDENCE. DUE TO LATE HOUR AND TO STRENUOUS
AND CROWDED SCHEDULE OF TROUPE ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO CONDUCT
INTERVIEWS ON AFTERNOON NOVEMBER ONE SEVEN NEXT. BUREAU WILL
BE ADVISED PROMPTLY BY AIRTEL OF RESULTS OF INTERVIEWS.

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TOR: 9:07 A.M. TAR 11/14/61
DEC: 11:00 A.M. RC 11/14/61

[REDACTED]

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SERIALIZED <i>Re</i>	FILED <i>Re</i>
NOV 14 1961	
NEW YORK	

[REDACTED] *Re*

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11-14-61

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, San Francisco [REDACTED]

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]

GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[REDACTED]

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Reurairtel 11-6-61.

Bufiles reveal no identifiable derogatory information concerning Quentin Griffiths not contained in the files of your office. You are authorized to interview him for information concerning the subject. This interview must be conducted in accordance with prior Bureau instructions concerning investigations and interviews at educational institutions.

1 - New York ([REDACTED])

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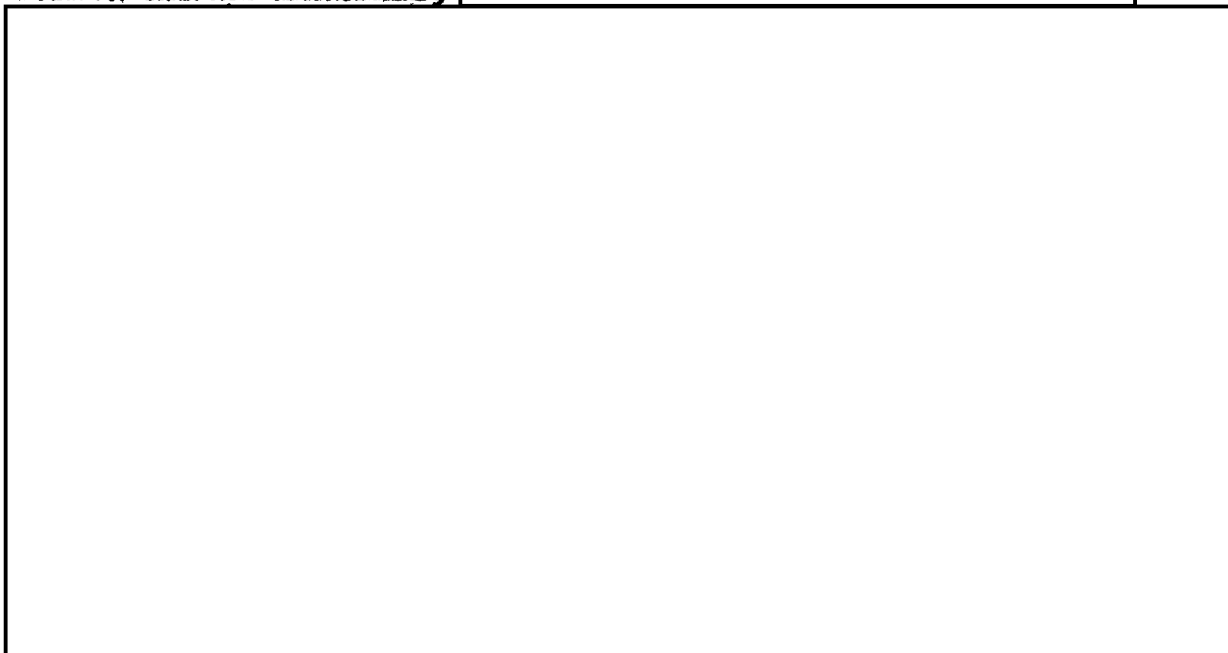
Cablegram

URGENT 11-9-61

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LEGAT, LONDON NO. 446

GORDON AENEOLD LONSDALE, [REDACTED]



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[REDACTED]

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FBI - NEW YORK	

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CODE

11-13-61

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

TO LEGAL ATTACHE LONDON
2 - SAN FRANCISCO (Enc.)

FROM DIRECTOR FBI [redacted]

GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE, [redacted]

REURCAB NOVEMBER NINE LAST.

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[Large redacted area]

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N.B.
*

1 - New York (Enc.) [redacted]

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*Memo Prepared
dated 11-16-61
and Routed to SAC
Foster; ASAC
& Supv. [redacted]
Termines 350, 355, and 356.
[redacted] encompassing
[redacted]
[redacted] 34
11-16-61*

[redacted]

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SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 15 1961	
[redacted]	[redacted]

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11/8/61

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED]
SUBJECT : GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[REDACTED]

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ReBucable 11/6/61, to Legat, London.

Forwarded as enclosures to this communication are
the following two items:

(A) Passenger list of tourist class passengers for
"SS America" sailing from New York Thursday, March 3, 1955.

(B) Menu for Captain's Dinner on Tuesday, 3/8/55;
said menu autographed by GORDON LONSDALE.

Previously noted items were made available to SA
[REDACTED] by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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3 - Bureau [REDACTED] (Encls. 2) (RM)
① - New York [REDACTED]

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RJB:cmv
(5)
emv

[Signature]
[REDACTED]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

San Francisco 2, California

November 17, 1961

~~SECRET~~

RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

Upon interview at Paris, France, on September 14, 1961, TATIANA PIANKOVA advised that one GRIFFITHS had been associated with CONON MOLODY in the Boy Scouts at Berkeley, California.

On October 20, 1961, records of the Mt. Diablo Council, Boy Scouts of America, Berkeley, as made available by Mrs. SUE TIMM, disclosed that CONON MOLODY, 2632 College, Berkeley, was listed as a member of Boy Scout Troop 33 in the application for troop charter for 1936 which was dated November 19, 1935. MOLODY was not listed on the rolls of this troop in applications for charters for the years 1935, 1937, and 1938. No one named GRIFFITHS appeared on these rolls.

On October 27, 1961, Miss MARY EDITH MCGREW, 2601 Derby Street, Berkeley, former Principal of the A to Zed School, advised that one QUENTIN GRIFFITHS had attended the school from September, 1935, to May, 1939. He was born in March, 1922, had previously attended Willard Junior High School, and was a classmate of MOLODY at the A to Zed School.

On November 16, 1961, QUENTIN GRIFFITHS, 2615-B Ridge Road, Berkeley, advised that the name CONON MOLODY was vaguely familiar to him, and he believed that a person of that name had been a classmate of his at Willard Junior High School and at the A to Zed School. GRIFFITHS stated he had never been a Boy Scout but may have known MOLODY in connection with school activities. He said he had no recollection of the appearance or activities of MOLODY and did not know of anyone who might have known him well.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

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RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

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Upon interview at Paris, France, on October 2 and 3, 1961, TATIANA PIANKOVA advised that NADEDA BELOUSOVITCH of San Francisco, California, is a sister of her husband, SERGE PIANKOV. She stated that BELOUSOVITCH has a son, IGOR BELOUSOVITCH, who was an interpreter for the U. S. Army in Berlin and is now employed by the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C.

On November 6, 1961, Mrs. NADINE BELOUSOVITCH, 1550 Clement Street, San Francisco, California, advised that she is a sister of SERGE PIANKOV. She said she had known various members of the NAUMOV family in Russia and recalled knowing EVODOKIYA NAUMOVA while the latter was a student at a medical college in Moscow. She also knew TROFIM MOLODY who married EVODOKIYA, and she recalled that he had died after she left Russia.

Mrs. BELOUSOVITCH also knew that TROFIM and EVODOKIYA had a son named CONON who lived with his aunt, TATIANA PIANKOVA, in Berkeley, California, for a time about 30 years ago. She said that she saw CONON only once or twice while he was in the United States. She said that he was never in her home, and she had no information concerning arrangements for his stay in this country. She said she was never close to PIANKOVA and ANASTASIA NAUMOVA and had not seen either of them for years.

She said her son, IGOR BELOUSOVITCH, is now 38 years of age and is a Captain in the U. S. Army at Fort Meyer near Washington, D. C. She said her son had never confided in her concerning his associates and activities, and she could not say whether he would remember MOLODY. She considered it unlikely that he would have known MOLODY well because IGOR lived in San Francisco while CONON lived in Berkeley.

The following individuals were interviewed on November 17, 1961, at 1915 Addison Street, Berkeley, the residence of [REDACTED] TATIANA PIANKOVA and EVELYN COUNRAND were in Berkeley at this time in connection with a ballet performance to be presented there on that date.

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RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

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TATIANA PIANKOVA stated she had no new information concerning MOLODY and said she had not received any word from her sister, EVODOKIYA. PIANKOVA had had an opportunity to talk to ANASTASIA NAUMOVA and said she had urged NAUMOVA to cooperate with the authorities upon interview. She said she had not revealed the identification of MOLODY as LONSDALE to NAUMOVA.

PIANKOVA had learned that NAUMOVA had received a letter from their sisters, SERAFINA and EVODOKIYA on the occasion of NAUMOVA's birthday which was November 11, 1961. She was relieved to learn of the receipt of this letter because it indicated to her that EVODOKIYA probably was not in any difficulty concerning her son. She said that it appeared that SERAFINA was in Moscow for treatment of an eye disorder.

PIANKOVA stated that she had not received any information from NAUMOVA concerning MOLODY which was new to her, and she believed that the information which she had previously given upon interviews was complete. She stated that, if she thought of any additional, pertinent information, she would communicate it to the authorities.

EVELYN CURNAND advised she had not received any additional information concerning this matter since she was last interviewed. She stated that, in view of the crowded schedule of the ballet troupe, she and PIANKOVA had actually had very little time to talk.

Upon being advised of the identification of LONSDALE as MOLODY, [] said that he was amazed to learn this. He recalled vaguely the LONSDALE publicity but had not connected previous inquiry concerning MOLODY with that case. He said it was now clear to him why the FBI had been interested in his movements during his trip in the Summer of 1960. He said, however, that he had had absolutely no connection with MOLODY whom he had not seen since 1938. [] said he had talked briefly with PIANKOVA con-

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RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

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cerning MOLODY since he joined the ballet troupe in New York City on October 7. She told him it would be better if they did not discuss the matter, and she felt sure he would learn the full story later. [] said he had no new information to provide concerning MOLODY in the light of his new knowledge of MOLODY's identity as LONSDALE but he would immediately advise of any information which came to his mind.

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ANASTASIA NAUMOVA was unable to furnish any pertinent information in addition to that previously furnished by PIANKOVA concerning the circumstances of MOLODY's residence in the United States and his return to Russia. She claimed to be quite shocked when told that MOLODY was identical with LONSDALE and said that she was not familiar with the LONSDALE publicity. She said that, under the circumstances, she was able to understand why the FBI had been so interested in MOLODY and said she would be willing to furnish any information of value.

NAUMOVA believed that she had not seen MOLODY during her trip to Russia in 1931 because he was at the family dacha at that time.

NAUMOVA said it was true that MOLODY had decided to return to the USSR in 1938 in response to his mother's inquiry about what he planned to do. She said he had not wanted to return and had done so only because of his concern for his mother's welfare because he was afraid that reprisals might be taken against her if he did not return.

NAUMOVA said she had not seen or communicated with MOLODY since she put him on the train from Estonia to Moscow in 1938. She was amazed to learn that she and MOLODY had left New York City by ship within a few days of each other in March and February of 1955. She said that so far as she was concerned this was pure coincidence, and she said she had not seen MOLODY either in the United States or in Europe in 1955. The purpose of her trip was to visit France and to

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RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

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attempt to get United States approval for a visit to the USSR to see her relatives and visit her mother's grave. She said she had been unsuccessful in this attempt.

When NAUMOVA visited Moscow in 1958, she did not see MOLODY. His mother expressed her deep gratitude for all that NAUMOVA had done for him while he was in the United States, but his mother and his sister indicated that they did not desire to talk about him. She did not press them for information concerning MOLODY but did learn that he had been married for about one year to a daughter of an official in the Tupolev Aircraft concern and that this marriage had ended in divorce. He later married a widow whose husband was killed in World War II and who had an eleven-year-old daughter by her first marriage. NAUMOVA did not know the name of MOLODY's first wife nor the first name of his second wife. They have a son of this marriage named DIMITRI who is about six years of age. MOLODY's second wife is a schoolteacher, but the grade level and location of the school were unknown to NAUMOVA.

NAUMOVA stated that EVODOKIYA's daughter, NATALIA, is married to a man named AMIAD ARIEVICH MAGAZANIK, who is Jewish and is very anti-American. NATALIA previously was married to a man who was killed on the first day of World War II and whose name she could not recall. NAUMOVA did not know the occupation or place of employment of NATALIA's second husband. She said NATALIA is a professor of physics at the University of Moscow where she teaches Chinese who are in Moscow for technical training. She learned in 1958 that there were 20,000 Chinese who were then attending universities in Moscow.

NAUMOVA said she had written to her sister, TATIANA, that the FBI had inquired about MOLODY but that she had not written anything about this to EVODOKIYA or SERAFINA.

NAUMOVA stated that MOLODY had always been a studious boy and had been an excellent linguist. She said that, although her sister in Moscow would not discuss his employment, it had been her guess that he had probably

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RE: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE

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been employed as a translator because of his linguistic ability. She stated she had received absolutely no information besides that set out above concerning MOLODY. She last saw him in 1938 and had never received any indication that he had been in China, Germany, Canada, or the United States.

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11/17/61

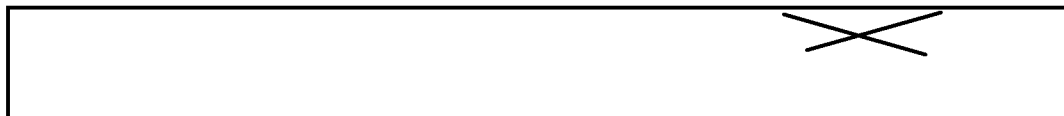
AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM: SAC, San Francisco [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[REDACTED]
OO: New York

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Enclosed for the Bureau and New York are six and two copies respectively of letterhead memorandum of above date and caption reflecting results of interviews with NADINE BELOUSOVITCH, QUENTIN GRIFFITHS, TATIANA PIANKOVA, EVELYN COUNAID, [REDACTED], and ANASTASIA NAUMOVA.



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Interviews at Berkeley, California, on November 17, 1961, were conducted by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
[REDACTED] Remaining investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

3 - Bureau (Enc. 6) (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
2 - New York [REDACTED] (Enc. 2) (AIR MAIL - REGISTERED)
1 - San Francisco
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SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
NOV 20 1961
FBI-NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ASAC [redacted] and All
Weekend Supervisors for
Weekend of 11/17-20/1961

FROM : SA [redacted] (Section 34)

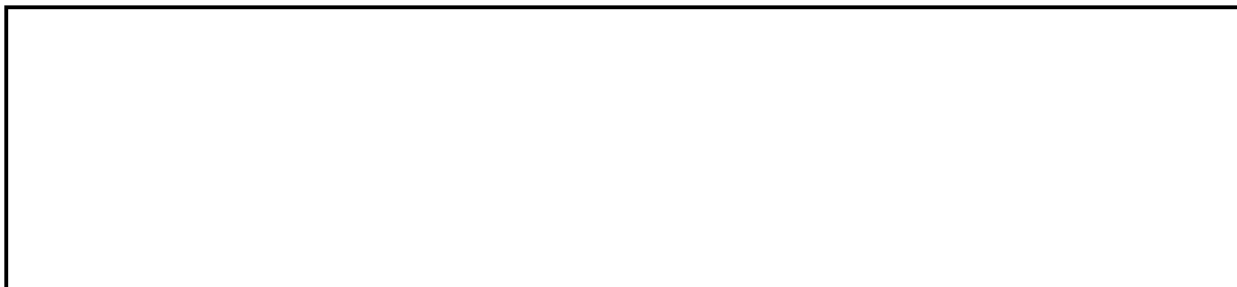
SUBJECT: GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE
[redacted]

DATE: November 17, 1961

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~~ASAC 2~~
~~ASAC 3~~
~~ASAC 4~~
SEC 11
SEC 12
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SEC 14 b6
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SEC 48

For information purposes, LONSDALE is a Soviet espionage agent presently incarcerated in an English prison, where he is serving a 25 year sentence.



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The Bureau has issued specific instructions as follows:

"NO RELEASE SHOULD BE MADE LOCALLY BY ANY FIELD OFFICE."

If there are any inquiries whatsoever re this matter, they should all be referred to the Bureau.

SAC FOSTER, ASAC [redacted], and Staff Supervisor [redacted] have all been apprised of the foregoing. Copies of this memorandum have been prepared for ASAC [redacted] and weekend supervisors in the event of any inquiries by the press.

One copy of this memorandum is designated for the LONSDALE case file to indicate that the foregoing instructions have been handled.

✓ lcc--ASAC [redacted]
lcc--Weekend Supervisor's Desk
lcc--[redacted] (LONSDALE) (INFO)

RJB:rjb

[redacted]

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Rec'd. 11-24-61
AGB- Sec. 34

FBI Says Spy Britain Jailed Is Russian

WASHINGTON (AP)—A self-styled Canadian convicted in Britain of heading a spy ring was a Russian, the FBI says.

The report released by the FBI yesterday said the man, sentenced to 25 years in prison for masterminding an espionage group that stole British naval secrets, is Conon Molody and that he spent five years in the United States as a youth.

He was convicted by the British under the name of Gordon Arnold Lonsdale. He claimed Canadian citizenship.

Among the secrets were details of the British nuclear-powered submarine Dreadnought, built with the help of U.S. blueprints.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said Molody, now 38, came to the United States in 1933 and lived in Berkeley, Calif., posing as his aunt's son. He returned to the Soviet Union in 1938 and was believed to have served in the Red Army before drawing an espionage assignment.

The report said Molody went to Canada in 1954 and obtained a passport and birth certificate under the name Gordon Arnold Lonsdale. In February 1955 he was in New York City briefly, under the name Molody, prior to his trip to England.

He was arrested as Lonsdale by British authorities last January. Two Americans, Morris and Lona Cohen, and two British nationals were arrested at the same time. All were convicted.

*From Ossining, N.Y.
Paper dated 11/25/61.
RG [REDACTED] - Sec. 34*

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NOV 27 1961	
FBI — NEW YORK	

[Signature]

Soviet Spy Was Russian, Not American as Claimed

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON.

The Justice Department revealed yesterday that the head of a Soviet spy network who was jailed in England last winter is a Russian, and not an American or Canadian, as he claimed.

An intensive FBI investigation found that Gordon Arnold Lonsdale, serving a twenty-five-year prison sentence in England for espionage, is really Conan Molody, a native of Russia. J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI, said Molody spent a few years in the United States as a youngster and subsequently was in this country again as an adult, and Soviet spy.

Molody, alias Lonsdale, was convicted in London last March with four other Soviet espionage agents, including two American citizens, Morris and Lona Cohen, who suddenly left the United States after the arrest of atom spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

Molody also was connected with the Rosenberg and Abel espionage cases in the United States.

According to the FBI, Molody, thirty-eight, came to the United States in 1933 posing as the son of a woman who really was his aunt. He lived in Berkeley, Calif., and attended private school there for five years, then returned to Russia.

Later he was believed to have served in the Red Army, and after that became an important

Associated Press
Gordon Arnold Lonsdale

member of the Soviet international espionage apparatus.

In 1954 Molody showed up in Canada, where he got a birth certificate and passport as Gordon Arnold Lonsdale. A year later he was located in New York, and from there went to England, where he was arrested early this year as chief of a spy ring stealing naval secrets for the Soviet Union.

Two British nationals also were convicted with Molody and the Cohens in England.

From NY Herald Tribune
dated 11-25-61 Page 2
OF Late City Edition
RQ [redacted] Sec. 34

[redacted]

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FBI - NEW YORK	

RQ

11-24-61

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

gld

TO LEGAL ATTACHE LONDON

FROM DIRECTOR FBI ([REDACTED])

GORDON ARNOLD LONSDALE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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1 - New York

1 - San Francisco

ASAC [REDACTED] advised 11/25/61 gld.
Rec'd. 11/27/61
AGB - Sec. 34
(SEE Serials 362 and 363)

RA Boston

[REDACTED]	
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NOV 25 1961	
[REDACTED]	RK [REDACTED]

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